

REVIEWS

there must be a third conversion or transformation of the soul, similar to that which took place in the souls of the Apostles on the day of Pentecost."

Although to some the scriptural approach may seem too plausible to be convincing, the teaching as a whole is of paramount value to all who desire to reach the perfection of the Christian life. And the translation offers pleasing reading.

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ENGLISH PRAYERS AND TREATISE ON THE HOLY EUCHARIST. By St. Thomas More. Edited with an Introduction by Philip E. Hallett. (Burns Oates; 2s.)

This little collection of *English Prayers* with the "*Treatise on the Holy Eucharist*," which St. Thomas More wrote in the Tower, is another of the gifts which Monsignor Hallett has made to the faithful in these islands. The growing cultus of the Saint is shown by the establishment in London and New York and Brussels and Sydney of professional societies of lawyers who have taken St. Thomas More for their patron, and there are numberless other societies of University students and others who have done the like.

The inclusion in this collection of a translation made by St. Thomas More early in the 16th century of a prayer of Picus Mirandula reminds us of the obligations that More owed to the Italian humanist, who was perhaps his guide also in philosophy and in the liking he showed for Aristotle and Aquinas. In the *Treatise on the Holy Eucharist* occurs the distinction between the *sacramentum tantum* and the *res sacramenti* which is borrowed from the *Summa Theologica*. To trace the influence of the philosophy of Aquinas is a work that ought to be done by some Catholic scholar as a piece of post-graduate research. It would be of value from the point of view not only of philosophy and theology but also from the point of view of the history of the English law.

But these reflections are perhaps not entirely germane to this little book which is primarily a book of devotion and which contains in the *Treatise on the Holy Eucharist* and in the prayers from the *Treatise on the Passion* (as Monsignor Hallett is prompt to point out) devotional prayers that in "balance, simplicity and tenderness of feeling" invite and sustain comparison with the best work of Cranmer.

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